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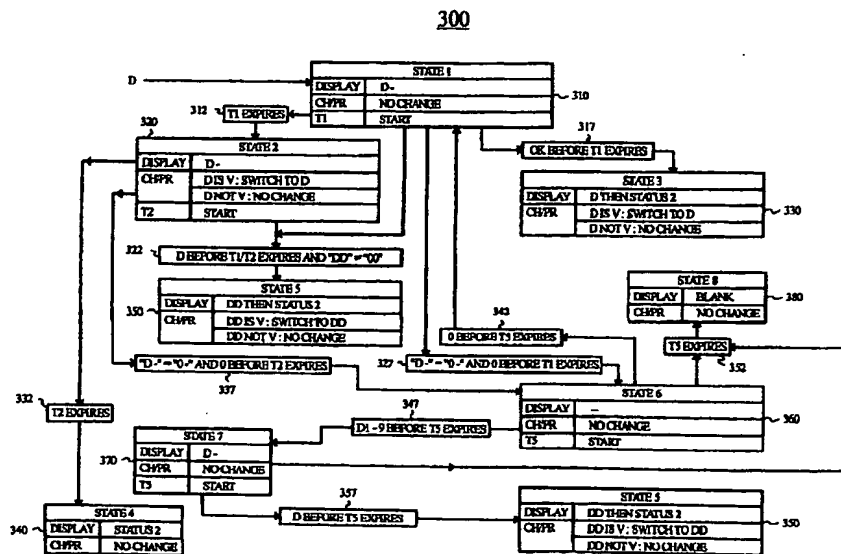
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SELECTING BROADCAST PROGRAMS



(57) Abstract: A method for selecting a broadcast program is conducive for worldwide or global use. According to an exemplary embodiment, the method includes steps of receiving a first user input representing a first digit associated with the broadcast program, storing first data representing the first digit within one (T1) of a first predetermined time interval for a first region and a second predetermined time interval for a second region, and processing the first data for selecting the broadcast program.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 483 685 A (OKAMURA) 9 January 1996 (1996-01-09)	1-3, 5-11, 13-19, 21-30
Y	the whole document	4, 12, 20
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 07, 31 July 1997 (1997-07-31) & JP 9 083302 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 28 March 1997 (1997-03-28) abstract	1-3, 5-11, 13-19, 21-24
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 16, 8 May 2001 (2001-05-08) & JP 2001 016516 A (VICTOR CO OF JAPAN LTD), 19 January 2001 (2001-01-19) abstract	4, 12, 20
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